

TELEGRAM

Department of State

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Control:
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MARCH 24, 1955
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FROM: MOSCOW

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 1630, MARCH 24, 1 PM

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SENT DEPARTMENT 1630 REPEATED INFORMATION LONDON 276, PARIS 277.

RE EMBTEL 1629 (NOT SENT LONDON PARIS)

AFTER GLANCING THROUGH AIDE MEMOIRE HANDED ME BY GROMYKO TODAY I OBSERVED THAT WE APPEARED TO BE GOING AROUND IN A CIRCLE. I SAID WE CONSIDERED THAT DISCUSSION OF THE SUBSTANCE OF AGENDA ITEMS BY FOREIGN MINISTERS RATHER THAN DELAY A SUMMIT MEETING WOULD ACTUALLY SPEED IT UP. GROMYKO DISAGREED. I POINTED OUT THAT WE HAD NOT INSISTED UPON A FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING PROVIDED ADEQUATE PREPARATION COULD BE MADE THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS. GROMYKO POINTED OUT THAT WE WERE IN FACT USING DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS BUT HE WAS AFRAID THAT AT THE PRESENT RATE OF PROGRESS THESE MIGHT DRAG OUT FOR A YEAR.

GROMYKO ALSO INQUIRED WHEN THEY MIGHT EXPECT A REPLY TO THE AIDE MEMOIRE HANDED TO THE SECRETARY BY AMBASSADOR MENSHIKOV CONCERNING AERIAL FLIGHTS OVER SOVIET TERRITORY. I REPLIED THAT I HAD ONLY TODAY LEARNED OF THIS AIDE MEMOIRE AND DID NOT HAVE THE TEXT OF IT. I SAID HOWEVER I WOULD INQUIRE OF THE DEPARTMENT.

THOMPSON

PK/22

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Noted By



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